



Office of Criminal Enforcement, Forensics and Training  
September 30, 2006

**DEFENDANT:** Southeastern Louisiana Water and Sewer

E.D. Louisiana 05-263-L

**DEFENDANT:** Michael Richard Culver

E.D. Louisiana 06-118

**FACTS:** The Southeastern Louisiana Water and Sewer (SELA) operates at least 40 sewerage treatment facilities throughout St. Tammany Parish, LA. Through inspections conducted by the LDEQ, it was determined that SELA had not reported hundreds of excursions. LDEQ informed the EPA Criminal Investigation Division that SELA had repeatedly violated its NPDES permits and certain plants were operating without a permit. The discharges from SELA's plants ultimately flowed into Lake Pontchartrain through various streams and rivers. Despite knowing its plants were overburdened and over-capacitated thus exceeding their permit limits, SELA continued to add more homes and services to the plants.

**DATE:** 08/22/2005 SELA was charged in an Information with violation the CWA {33 U.S.C. 1311(a); 33 U.S.C. 1319(c)(2)(A); 33 U.S.C. 1342 - failure to obtain a NPDES permit}.

**STATUTE:** 33 U.S.C. 1311(a), 33 U.S.C. 1319(c)(2)(A), 33 U.S.C. 1342

**DATE:** 08/22/2005 SELA pled guilty to one count as charged in the Information.

**DATE:** 03/29/2006 SELA was sentenced to 60 months probation and ordered to pay a fine of \$2.1 million fine.

**STATUTE:**

**DATE:** 04/20/2006 Culver was charged in an Information with violating the CWA {33 U.S.C. 1319(c)(2)(A) - negligent violation; 1311(a) and 1342}.

**DATE:** 05/11/2006 Culver pled guilty to a felony violation of the CWA.

**DATE:** 08/10/2006 Culver was sentenced to nine months home detention, 36 months probation, pay a \$100 special assessment and a \$3,600 fine.